

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-06

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DRAFTED BY ARA-LA/PLC - ARTHURHWOODRUFF:GFH

APPROVED BY ARA - WILLIAM D. ROGERS

ARA/APU - MR. ORTIZ

ARA - AMBASSADOR BOWDLER

S/S-O: G. TWOHIE

ARA/ECP

ARA-LA/PLC - MR. BLOOMFIELD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 236746

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, UR, AR, PN

SUBJECT: BUENOS AIRES MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 7708

1. RE PARAGRAPHS 3 AND 5 REFTEL, WE ARE GRATIFIED THAT THE ARGENTINES HAVE SUGGESTED THE DESIRABILITY OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN ADVANCE OF BUENOS AIRES MFM. PLEASE ASSURE PULIT AND OTHERS AT THE MINISTRY THAT WE WELCOME THEIR SUGGESTIONS FOR CONSULTATION AND HOPE TO BE CONFERRING WITH THEM AT VARIOUS TIMES AND PLACES OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS.

2. YOU SHOULD ALSO STATE THAT WE SHARE GOA'S HOPE FOR POSITIVE RESULTS, AND THAT WE THINK THIS WILL BEST BE ACHIEVED BY A BUSINESSLIKE MEETING WITH A SPECIFIC, SELECTIVE AGENDA ON WHICH THERE HAS BEEN ADVANCE CONSULTATION AMONG A WIDE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS. IN THIS WAY, WE HOPE THERE CAN BE AGREEMENT PRIOR TO THE
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MEETING ON SOME CONCRETE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE MINISTERS

TO APPROVE.

3. ON THE AGENDA, YOU CAN TELL THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD TRY TO GET AWAY FROM THE LENGTHY OMNIBUS AGENDA USED AT TLATELOLCO AND WASHINGTON. WE AGREE WITH THEM THAT WE SHOULD TRY TO IDENTIFY A SMALLER NUMBER OF CONCRETE ISSUES ON WHICH

PROGRESS MAY BE POSSIBLE BETWEEN NOW AND MARCH. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE WILL WELCOME AND STUDY CAREFULLY ANY SUGGESTIONS THE ARGENTINES MAY WANT TO PUT FORWARD. BEGIN FYI: WE HAVE IN MIND FOCUSING ON POSSIBILITIES IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, TRADE, TRANS-NATIONAL ENTERPRISES AND REFORM OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM, ALL OF WHICH ARE CURRENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION IN INTER-AMERICAN FORUMS. WE WILL KEEP THE EMBASSY ADVISED AS OUR THINKING EVOLVES. END FYI. WE ARE SKEPTICAL ABOUT PULIT'S IDEA THAT BECAUSE THESE TOPICS CANNOT BE QUOTE RESOLVED UNQUOTE IN THE SHORT RUN, WE SHOULD PLACE NEW PROJECTS ON THE AGENDA. WE BELIEVE THAT IN EACH CASE SOME PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE IN TIME FOR RATIFICATION BY THE MARCH MFM.

4. REGARDING ADVANCE CONSULTATIONS, WE HOPE THAT THE SECRETARY AND FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES WILL BE ABLE TO COME TO SOME AGREEMENT ON THE FORMAT OF THE MEETING AND HOPEFULLY ON SOME AGENDA TOPICS WHEN THEY SEE EACH OTHER IN ROME. ALSO, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BOWDLER WILL BE VISITING BUENOS AIRES DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 28 AND WILL WELCOME A DISCUSSION OF THIS TOPIC WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS, AS WILL RICHARD BLOOMFIELD OF ARA-LA/PLC, WHO WILL BE IN ARGENTINA FOR PLANNING TALKS IN NOVEMBER.

5. RE ENERGY, WHILE WE WOULD WELCOME A THOROUGH AIRING OF THIS TOPIC, WE BELIEVE IT A NON-STARTER AS AN AGENDA ITEM GIVEN THE RESISTANCE OF SOME LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES TO ITS INCLUSION AND INHERENT DIVISIVENESS OF THE SUBJECT. HOWEVER, IT COULD WELL FIGURE IN MINISTERIAL SPEECHES OR BILATERAL CONVERSATIONS, PERHAPS
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AS AN ELEMENT IN GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK. INGERSOLL

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